**Mr. A. B. Salem.**—Sir, I have tabled this token motion to know from the Hon'ble Member the necessity for this expenditure, as these candidates are already employees of the department who are trained as foresters. Therefore, all employees have their pay provided for. So how does it come that these persons who have been deputed for training come to draw pay over and above their pay already provided ?

**Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.**—The excess is the excess rate sanctioned to those subordinates in the scheme recently sanctioned. They were first paid their original pay.

**Mr. A. B. Salem.**—Are there no savings in the department ?

**Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.**—There are no savings. We are short of funds.

*The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.*

Question put: *that the Demand may be passed.*

*Motion carried.*

## 9. X—Tramway—Rs. 16,800.

**Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.**—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 16,800 under X—Tramway.

It is proposed to enter into an agreement for the transport of logs from British over the State Tramway. The contractor is to transport 7,000 candies of timber in a year. The revenue anticipated from the above transport is Rs. 68,000. The increased expenditure that will have to be incurred on account of this contract in the matter of fuel, maintenance, etc., may amount to more or less Rs. 7,000. Thus the transaction is likely to bring in a net revenue of Rs. 60,000.

To execute the agreement some initial expenditure has to be incurred for the purchase of 12 fresh pairs of trucks as the required number of trucks cannot be spared in full from the existing rolling stock. The cost of a pair of trucks is estimated at Rs. 1,400. An amount of Rs. 16,800 is thus required for the purpose. The item was not provided for in the Budget since it could not be foreseen at the time. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction this additional allotment.

### Motion No. 1.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,800 for X—Tramway by Re. 1.*

*As the Member was absent, his motion was considered withdrawn.*

### Motion No. 2.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,800 for X—Tramway by Re. 1.*

**Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Sir, my object in bringing this motion is to point out that the men employed in the Tramway

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are not given as fair a treatment as their brothren officers in other departments of the Cochin Government. For one thing, Sir, these Tramway men spending most of their time up the hill, are not given any hill allowance. When other officers go up the hill some kind of special tract allowance and hill allowances are given them. Once before when I brought this inequality to the notice of this House I was told that Mr. King's pay of Rs. 400 included also Hill Tract Allowance. I do not see how. The other Assistant Engineers under the Cochin Government also get a salary of Rs. 400. Then what is the special hill tract allowance given to the Tramway Engineer ? So his pay does not include hill allowance of any kind. My case is when their brothren officers in other departments are paid hill allowance why not the Tramway officers also ? Why should they alone be denied tract allowance or hill allowance ? This matter may therefore be seriously considered. Then again, Sir, these Tramway officers, employees lower down, are not given the benefit of pension. Most of these employees spend all their life up the hill for a period of nearly 30 years and they retire in their old age without being entitled to draw anything by way of pension. Is this not hard ? Is this not cruel ? Should they not exist till they die. ? Should they not be given something to keep them going ? It is only most fair and proper they should be given pension when they retire after 25 or 30 years of long service. Now we are here with a scheme of giving extra work to Tramway men. We are proposing the transportation of 7,000 candies of foreign timber by means of our Tramway. This is really extra work and this will bring a net gain of Rs. 50,000 a year. Why then grudge to pay these poor souls something more by way of remuneration and also to make their service pensionable? Humanity requires it. Their wages should be increased and their services ought to be made pensionable.

**Rama Varmha Tampuran.**—Sir, as regards the Engineer himself it is true that there is an order that generally speaking he is not entitled to hill allowance. The main reason for that is that the Tramway Engineer like Railway Engineers will have to travel very frequently along the line and has, so to say, to consider his pay as being fixed in consideration of this also. As such he cannot be given any special halting allowance or hill allowance.

**Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—In that case he may be given better pay.

**Rama Varmha Tampuran.**—As regards the other subordinates of the department, it is to be noted that the Tramway is not after all working satisfactorily and brings no gain to Government. If as a result of the new contract, there is some gain to the Government, they will have no objection to look into

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the claims put forward by the Hon'ble Member, regarding the payment of pension to the subordinates. Till the Tramway is able to meet both ends satisfactorily, the request cannot be seriously considered.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Is there any assurance that the contractor will supply sufficient quantity of timber ? Has he given any surety ?

**Rama Varmha Tampuran.**—There are several guarantees in the matter of this agreement. First of all, as a preliminary, he has to deposit a certain amount. When the amount falls short of the security, he has to make good the same also. Sufficient guarantees will be taken.

**Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—I do not press the motion.

*The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.*

**Motion No. 3.**

*As the following motion was not moved, it was considered withdrawn.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,800 for X—Tramway by Re. 1.*

Question put: *that the demand may be passed.*

*Motion carried.*

## 10. X—Tramway—Rs. 2,600.

**Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.**—I beg to move, Sir, for an additional allotment of Rs. 2,600 under X—Tramway. Out of the amount of Rs. 2,600 a sum of Rs. 225 is necessary under A. T. (2)—pay of the Tramway office establishment. The increase is due to the increase of pay sanctioned to the staff as a result of the recent revision.

Rs. 500 under A. 3 T. A. This additional allotment was necessitated for the following reasons. (a) The daily batta of 4 as. originally given to peons was in the course of the year raised to 6 as. (b) the T. A. of the members of the Tramway staff taken for Census work had to be met. (c) Journeys had to be made to the T. E'.s survey camp in the special tract by peons for taking office papers to him. Peons who accompanied the Engineer to the camp had also to be paid. Thus the journeys in the special tract were very much increased. The T. A. in the special tracts is double the ordinary rate.

Rs. 700 under B. 1 (1). Permanent but non-pensionable staff of the Tramway Department.

The increase is due to the revision of pay of the establishment. The clerk at Kavalai was also granted 50 per cent of his pay as hill allowance.

Rs. 220 under D. 1. The increasse is due to the revised scale of pay granted to the staff specially to the traffic clerk,...

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